

# THE AUTOGRAPH.

DEVOTED EXCLUSIVELY TO THE INTERESTS OF AUTOGRAPH COLLECTING

VOL. I.

NEBRASKA CITY, NEB., MARCH 1887.

NO. 1.

## AUTOGRAPH LETTERS.

### Characteristics of the Hand-writing of a few of our Prominent Men and Women.

### As Portrayed in Letters and Documents in a Private Collection.

The mania for collecting appears to be common to all of the human race. The school boy collects marbles and business cards. The youth gathers canes, pipes and photographs of actresses; while even the most staid citizens have their hobbies in the collecting way. One will seek rare books, old books, first editions of American authors, etc. The hobby of another will be the prints of old-time celebrities; he will gloat over a portrait of Frederick the Great by a contemporary artist, regardless of the fact that Frederick never gave an artist a sitting after his accession to the throne of Prussia. One of the most entertaining and instructive of these fancies is that of Autograph collecting. Some collectors seek the Revolutionary Generals, some the Signers of the Declaration of Independence, others the Presidents and their Cabinets, the Governors of their respective states are also sought, still others, a miscellaneous collection of Literary, Political, Naval, Military, etc., in fact any one who is noted above their fellowmen; the latter if seeking to complete a series are attempting the impossible. Strange as it may

seem, the oldest autographs are not the rarest, neither do they command the highest prices.

There are persons who will not give their autographs under any circumstance, so the collector is forced to obtain it from some other source. In this way and by exchanging with other collectors, a collection may be made to exceed the most sanguine expectations of the possessor. Autograph collecting is probably the most expensive of all and the most beneficial to "Uncle Sam", it has been estimated that over \$5,000 was expended in postage on autograph requests in the year 1886. It has been fitly remarked "as one cannot tell the quality of a chestnut by looking at the burr, no more can he tell the quality of a man by his hand-writing." The leading characteristics of the hand-writing of famous people and the sentiment they have conveyed in letters in the writers collection, may be of interest.

Andrew Johnson's writing is very plain, and easily read; a letter or document bearing his autograph is exceedingly rare and always in demand. He enjoys the distinction of being the *rarest of the Presidents*, it would require considerable more time to decipher a letter of Martin Van Buren. "J. Tyler" is heavily written at the end of an important business letter, written while Vice President. A letter from Ex President Hayes in regard to his much famed hens show indications of being written very

leisurely, his chirography is composed of small letters with sharp angular turns. A short note from General Grant thanking an anxious inquirer as to his health, is very laboriously written. James Buchanan's signature is appended to an important state document, his writing at first sight looks simple but is hard to read. Franklin Pierce's is also appended to a state document, his writing is plain with large, round letters. Andrew Jackson's signature to a muster roll, was evidently written in the field and on an uneven surface, as the pen has gone through the paper in several places. James Madison's small, feminine signature adorns a most interesting state letter written while President. Part of a letter written and signed by Abraham Lincoln in his small angular hand is also to be found in this collection. The lamented Arthur's signature is on an "Executive Mansion" card. His is a most peculiar scrawl, the entire name is written without lifting the pen from the paper. "Humility is the eldest-born of virtue, and claims the birthright at the throne of heaven," so writes James A. Garfield, in an elegant hand. In Grover Cleveland's even chirography is a fine letter to a couple of young men just entering on the realistic part of life. It is a most touching and pathetic appeal to be honest and upright. Ex Vice Presidents Wilson, Wheeler, Hamlin and Colfax have all contributed their mite in a plain, legible hand.



D. D. Tompkins signature clipped from a letter, goes entirely across the page. John C. Calhoun was a fair writer, above the average of men who had so much writing to do. David Davis, when giving his autograph, invariably placed it at the extreme top of the card or slip on which it was written to prevent, as it is said, any one so disposed from writing a check above it. Geo. F. Edmund's signature turned on the end looks like the outline of a skeleton. John Sherman writes a running hand. The Cabinet Officers are almost complete, although some are merely signatures. This is a fine set and one to be proud of when complete. Mrs. Stowe writes a very delicate hand. Mrs. Stanton's as well as Susan B. Anthony's few words occupy unnecessary space. Louisa M. Alcott was obtained with much difficulty, it is written with a stylographic pen as is also a few lines from Helen Hunt Jackson, "H H". "Tell the truth and shame the devil" is the beautiful sentiment written in the carefully formed letters of George Bancroft. Benson J. Lossing's letter is poorly written, though very interesting. John G. Saxe writes an irregular though striking hand. Gen's. Sherman and Sheridan both write legible hands. Rosecrans writing is very simple, while the signature of Geo. B. McClellan is difficult to read. General Hancock's is peculiar, having heavy down strokes to most of the letters. General Terry is probably the best penman among the Union Generals.

Of the Confederate Generals the most graceful writer is Beauregard, while the worst is Jubal A. Early, who ignores all requests for his autograph. *fac simile* signatures of both these generals may be seen in any paper where the advertisement of the Louisiana State Lottery is

published, these gentleman being Directors. Generals Lee and Jos. E. Johnston write plainly, Lee's E looks like a brooker-backed C. Jefferson Davis's letter proves him to be a good writer as well as thinker. A. H. Stephens writes a very nervous and shaky hand. Wendell Phillips and Dr. Holland both have letters pertaining to a lecture date. "My wish is that liberty may be proclaimed throughout the land" written by Wm. Lloyd Garrison in a neat, schoolmaster hand. John B. Gough, "Josh Billings" and Theodore Tilton write very hurriedly, totally ignoring regularity; the latter's signature is very large. The signatures of Charles Sumner and Carl Schurz greatly resemble each other. Peter Cooper's immense capital letters and poor spelling is that of one evidently advanced in years. Wm. H. Seward and S. P. Chase write small and cramped. Many Actors, Actresses, Journalists, etc. too numerous to mention are here represented; but this collection of nearly 800 specimens is only the work of three years and I do not hesitate to say that it will compare favorably with many older collections. In closing I will say that the writing of Oscar Wilde is as detestible as its writer.

Single autograph letters and signatures from three collections almost given away.  
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Robert W. Mercer,  
117 Central Ave. Cincinnati, Ohio.

Beginners certainly have a mistaken idea of how to commence a collection, as a general rule they plunge into anything and everything one Governor here, one General there etc. They should take a series and complete it, say for instance commence on the Generals of the Civil War, these are nearly all readily obtained, the rest can be gotten by the use of a little time, correspondence and money. It would probably be easier to commence on the Governors of your respective states, these always make a nice set, but in every thing you must encounter obstacles; you cannot complete a series in a day, take your time and get the best. After you have what you desire of living celebrities, then commence on the defunct ones. These, of course, can only be obtained by exchange or purchase. The finest and probably the rarest are complete series of the Presidents, Vice Presidents, and Cabinets. If one can make a complete series of Letters and Documents, it would be an achievement to be proud of.

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## SALUTATORY.

This, the initial number of the Autograph is, we believe, a new venture in the field of amateur journalism. It is a novelty to have a paper with a free subscription and many will be inclined to think that it is some scheme to catch the unwary, but gentle readers let us impress on your minds once and for all that the Autograph is not intended nor expected to bring its publisher a fortune. We do not expect to make money, our reasons for this course will come to light later. The Autograph will be devoted to the interests of autograph collecting. The "Autograph craze" as some are pleased to call it, is beginning to be recognized as a formidable rival of Philately. A few years ago an autograph collector was rarely found and when found was laughed and scoffed at, but bearing all this it has spread until now it takes a foremost rank among the collections of the nineteenth century and is destined to a long and happy career. This study has long felt the want of a paper to expound its cause, and now THE AUTOGRAPH comes to the front as its champion. Some of the largest and most experienced collectors in the U. S. will contribute articles, making it altogether a readable and

interesting journal. Hoping the collecting "fraternity" will excuse our mistakes and "lend a hand", in our infancy, I remain,

Yours Autographically,  
THE PUBLISHER.

We will have an exchange department for the use of the "fraternity," if they desire it.

Send in the addresses of your friends who are collectors, no matter what they collect, they will find something they want. Send them all, don't be afraid of sending too many, "the more the merrier."

Beginners, commence your collection with an extra good one and never put in anything poorer than the one you commenced with.

It is said that Julian Hawthorne never responds to a request for his autograph, but puts the enclosed stamps in his pocket for future use.

Andrew Johnson enjoys the distinction of being the "rarest of the Presidents." Although he must have signed his name a great many times very few come to light.

An autograph letter of George Washington recently sold for \$75. It must have been an exceedingly fine specimen, as they are quite plentiful at from \$15 to \$25.

Howard K. Sanderson's articles on "Autograph Collecting" in the Curiosity World clearly demonstrate the fact that he knows what he is talking about. We hope to publish an article by Mr. Sanderson soon.

John G. Saxe, the poet, is fast failing and the end cannot be far away. Collectors who have a letter of this illustrious gentleman will do well to keep it.

## A WORD TO ADVERTISERS.

Here is your chance. An advertisement in THE AUTOGRAPH will surely pay you. The free subscription system makes an enormous circulation, it will go directly to a class of collectors seldom reached by an amateur paper, and where a paper comes free it is pretty sure of being read if only to see what it is. Take advantage of it while you may by sending us a trial advertisement, you will never regret it.

It is with a feeling akin to horror that, by the urgent solicitation of friends, we have undertaken the publication of this paper. It is our first attempt, but,

"If we chance to fall below,  
Demosthenes or Cicero;

Don't view us with a critics eye,  
But pass our imperfections by."

Jay Gould's signature forms quite a contrast to that of Wm. H. Vanderbilt; the latter is very plain, while the former is very peculiar, especially the way in which he connects the two names.

The horde of pests (I can think of no other name for them) who bore noted people for their autographs are the only detriment to autograph collecting taking the foremost place among the instructive and entertaining collections of the day. These people properly called "autograph fiends" have no collection and never intend to have one, they probably do it more for a speculation than anything else; but they do it. They swarm in on prominent like bees, making a nuisance of themselves and destroying what chances there might have been for a legitimate collector to secure a specimen. When this is done away with, autograph collectors will find their path a little smoother.



## PASTEPOT AND SWEARS.

The Indians have given General Phil. Sheridan the name of "the-chunky-man-who-means-business."

John H. Reagan, who was recently elected senator from Texas, was postmaster general of the confederate states, and is the author of the interstate commerce bill.

Benjamin Franklin's old "bulls-eye" watch is owned by a man in Lancaster, Pa. Large offers have been refused for this watch, including one of \$1,000 per annum for ten years from a New York firm, simply for the loan of the watch during that period to display in the window of their office on Broadway.

The father of Vice President Hamlin called his four sons after the great warriors of ancient history—Alexander, Julius Caesar, Cincinnatus and Hannibal. His four daughters were named respectfully Europe, Asia, Australia, and America.

## "Sweet bye and bye."

This is how the now famous hymn "Sweet bye and bye" came to be written: Dr. S. Fillmore Bennett the author, lives at Richmond Ill. and is very poor. The hymn was written by Dr. Bennett at Elkhorn, Wisconsin, in 1868. The writing of the words was based on a remark made by J. P. Webster, who composed the music. Mr. Webster was of an exceedingly nervous and sensitive nature and subject to periods of terrible depression. In one of his melancholy moods he chanced to drop into the house of Dr. Bennett, when the latter asked him: "What's the matter now?" "Oh, it's no matter," replied the despondent man; "It will be all right by and by." The last three words immediately conveyed a suggestion to Dr. Bennett, and he says; "The idea of the hymn came to me like a flash of sunlight."

Turning to his desk he penned the words which have since become so famous. He says it did not take him more than twenty minutes to write the hymn.

## AN ANECDOTE OF GRANT.

Miss Hulda Bond, of Brooklyn, is an autograph collector of more than ordinary pert nacity. The manner in which she secured Gen. Grant's is interesting. The general was at the time sick with the disease which resulted in his death but, nothing daunted, Miss Bond called at his residence, sent in her card, and obtained an interview with the general's wife. Miss Bond impressed Mrs. Grant so favorably that when she brought out her album and said: "Do you think the general would add his name to my collection?" the latter replied that she would see, and went up stairs. On returning, Mrs. Grant said; "I told the general of your pleasant call, and he took the album, and glancing over it, read the few lines written by a little boy 5 years old, as follows:

"And me too, wish, in your album to appear.  
And do excuse my funny letters, cousin dear;  
For I am only 5 years old, and in skirts as yet.  
But, when I'm 6 my first pants I am to get;  
And then I'll be a big man, I'm sure,  
And write as nice as I see G over Cleveland's  
signature." U. S. Bond.

"And after reading them he called for a pen and wrote after the boy's signature: 'And U. S. Grant' "The situation was so humorous" added Mrs. Grant, "that the general burst in a hearty laugh for the first time in weeks."—Coney Island Journal.

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# THE AUTOGRAPH.

DEVOTED EXCLUSIVELY TO THE INTERESTS OF AUTOGRAPH COLLECTING.

VOL. 1.

NEBRASKA CITY, NEB., APRIL 1887.

NO. 2.

*William Shakespeare*

## Shakespeare's Autograph.

C. F. GUNTHER.

It was pardonable that a general smile should light up the countenances of scholars and critics of America and Europe when it was announced by the newspaper press of Chicago that there was a veritable autograph of the immortal Bard of Avon in our midst. And still more so was it pardonable when the reporters (whose knowledge of Shakespeare, in this case, was as limited as it would be of the coming of an unknown comet) announced that the autograph was written in a book that was printed sixteen years after his death!

Yet, notwithstanding the ignorant reports, the truth soon followed—to announce that the autograph was pasted in a second Folio of 1632 of Shakespeare's works, its leaves dark and dingy with age, though well preserved.

The American history of the great discovery is brief. From what I can learn the book must have come to our shores some forty-five years ago, with some English Mormon immigrants, who took across the plains, where it laid in obscurity until unearthed by the Rev. F. M. Bristol, of Chicago, from whom I purchased it at eight. It took months of intelligent inquiry to discover who was the owner of this Folio.

The book contains numerous

names, notes, and writings on the fly-leaves, as well as in the body of the book, with dates of 1690, 1781, and 1839. Across the first blank fly-leaf is pasted the Autograph, in splendid preservation, the name of "William Shakespeare," and underneath is written, in a bold, clear, and strong hand, the time of birth and death of William Shakespeare, and signed "Jno. Ward," in the old style of writing of the last century. On another page there are the chronological order of the printed plays, and an account of the Chandos portrait, in the handwriting of one John Lomax, bearing date 1781.

The Shakespeare signature is identical with the well-known ones on the preserved legal documents in England, and in the same ink and color.

By a letter attached to the Folio in 1839, written by one Charles Godwin, of Bath, it is shown that this copy had been in the hands of Charles Severn, of London who had edited the Diary of John Ward, the Vicar of Stratford-on-Avon. Severn believed this folio had formerly belonged to Ward, and that he had pasted in this no-doubt genuine autograph of Shakespeare. [See page 33, "Diary of John Ward, Vicar, etc."]

After the discovery had been announced to the public, the Shakespearean Society of New York under

took to investigate the matter, and appointed a committee, making its chairman Mr. E. P. Vining of Chicago, a scholar well adapted to the subject, who has pursued the matter with a high degree of intelligence, and a zeal worthy of so good a cause, and after a thorough and searching investigation of one year and a half this society have reported that they can find no flaw in its history and it is in their opinion undoubtedly genuine.

The writer, from the first, had not the least doubt of its genuineness. From its antiquity and general appearance one felt instinctively that it was a reality. Truth shone out of every one of its dingy pages. A long lost treasure had turned up.

On my visit to England, last season, I made it a point to see the autographs of Shakespeare, of which there are only five in existence, those consisting of three on the will and two others on indentures. The last two are very poor, attached to a small strip of parchment, the "William" being written over the "Shakespeare," in order to get them on the strip. The last, and what I believe to be the only good one beside that which I own, is the last thing on the will. This one is plain and very distinct, with jet black ink, and exactly the same as the one pasted in my folio.

All the inks in numerous manuscripts in my possession—notably those of Queen Elizabeth, Mary Queen of Scots, Essex, Raleigh, Bacon, Johnson, Drayton, the Earl



of Southampton, etc., are of the same color, whereas the inks of the more modern writings in the folio—those of Ward and Lomax—are entirely different. The inks in the Elizabethan age were the old-fashioned nut-gall inks, and not like the more modern chemical combinations that oxidize with age.

(To be continued.)

### Hair of the Presidents.

Probably an article on this subject will not be entirely out of place. In the Patent Office at Washington there are many objects of interest connected with the Government and those who administered its affairs in times gone by. While examining some of these objects of curiosity, nothing struck us so forcibly as the samples of small locks of hair, taken from the heads of the different chief magistrates, from Washington down to President Pierce, secured in a frame covered with glass. Here is in fact, a part and parcel of what once constituted the living bodies of those illustrious individuals whose names are as familiar household words, but who now live only in history, and the remembrance of the past. The hair of Washington is nearly a pure white, fine and smooth in its appearance. That of John Adams is nearly the same in color though perhaps a little coarser. The hair of Jefferson is of a different character, being a mixture of white and auburn, or a sandy brown, and rather coarse. In his youth Mr. Jefferson's hair was remarkable for its bright color. The hair of Monroe is a handsome dark auburn, smooth and free from any admixture whatever. He is the only President, excepting Pierce, whose hair had undergone no change in color. The hair of John Quincy

Adams is somewhat peculiar, being coarse, and of a yellowish gray in color. General Jackson's hair is almost a perfect white, but coarse in its character, as might be supposed by those who have examined the portraits of the old hero. That of Van Buren is white and smooth in appearance. The hair of General Harrison is a fine white with a slight admixture of black. The hair of John Tyler is a mixture of white and brown, that of James K. Polk is almost a pure white. General Taylor's is white, with a slight admixture of brown. The hair of Millard Fillmore is, on the other hand, brown with a slight admixture of white. Franklin Pierce's is a dark brown, of which he had a plentiful crop. It is a somewhat remarkable fact, however, that since Pierce's time no one has thought of preserving the hair of his successors. There are vacancies in the cases but there is no hair either of Buchanan, Lincoln, Johnson, or Grant, for the inspection of futurity. A. C. M.

## A Rare Bargain.

### In Autographs

BLATCHFORD, Sam'l. F., Judge U. S. S. C., card  
Bradley, Jos. P., Judge U. S. S. C., 2 line card,  
Brewster, Benj. Harris, Att'y. Genl., 4 lines.  
CORKHILL, Geo. B. (Prosecuted Guiteau), card,  
ox, Walter S., Judge (Condemned "  
Danenhower, Jno. W., Com. Jeannette Expd.,  
Davidge, O. D., (Prosecuted Guiteau), card.  
Gray, H., Judge U. S. S. C., fine card,  
Harlam, Jno. M., Judge U. S. S. C., 4 line card,  
Hazen, A. D., Ass't. P. M. Genl., 2 lines,  
Keller, J. Warren, Speaker House of Rep., sig.  
Lincoln, Robt. T., Sec. War, signature,  
Loga, John A., U. S. Senator, signature,  
Matthews, Stanley, Judge U. S. S., 3 line card,  
Miller, Sam'l. F., 4 "  
Mord, M. A., (eng. omp. and sig.,  
M'bell, Jno. I., Sen., 5 line card. In grate-  
ful memory of James A. Garfield, etc.  
Moey, H. L., Cong. Capt. Att'y, etc. sig.  
Morrill, J. S., Sen., card,  
Pa delford, Seth, Gov. N. J., note signed,  
Sherman, John, Vice President, sig.,  
Sheridan, Phil., General, fine 3 line card,  
Spinner, F. E., U. S. Treas. signature  
Symme, J. Cleve, Mem. Old Cong. D. S.  
Teller, H. M., Sec. Int. card,  
Waite M. R., Chief Justice, card,  
White, John D., Senator, fine 3 line card,  
Woods, W. B., Judge U. S. S., card.

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cal curiosities, maps, books, etc. Pay cash.  
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S. H. CALHOUN Jr., Editor and Publisher.

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	1 mo.	2 mo's.	3 mo's.
1 inch	.60	.85	\$1.00
2 inches	.85	\$1.25	\$1.50
3 inches	\$1.00	\$1.50	\$2.00

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Editorial notices 3 cents per line.

No advertisements inserted less than 25 cts.

Advertisements must be paid for in advance. The exceedingly low price at which they are inserted, make it impossible to keep open accounts.

Copy must be in by the 25 of the month to insure insertion in the next number.

All are invited to contribute.

Address all communications to

S. H. CALHOUN JR.  
Nebraska City, Nebr.

An invitation to collector to send us the addresses of their collector friends, has been responded to with such promptness that we were astounded; we have received in two weeks nearly 2000 names and not a day passes but some one sends us a few more; of course a limit must be to this or we will run out of paper.

To check this and also to bring ourselves within the limit of the postal law so that we can avail ourselves of the second class mail matter law, for a paper with a free subscription is unavailable, we have decided to fix a subscription rate of 10 cts. per annum, postpaid. Send us a dime and receive The Autograph a year, it is worth every cent of it, in return we will give you the privilege of our exchange department to commence this month. Send us a dime for a years subscription and an exchange for the next number. Let us hope that the collecting fraternity will respond readily to this request. Address all communications to

S. H. Calhoun Jr.

Nebraska City, Neb.

Mr. G. T. McComb, of Lockport, N. Y., is the possessor of probably the most valuable series of autographs in the world, to-wit: A complete set of the signers of the Declaration of Independence in letters and documents. Mr. McComb is probably the only collector who has this set complete. Money could hardly buy them.

Having had personal dealings with all our advertisers, we can recommend them to be all they claim,—fair, square and cheap.

Mr. E. F. Gladwin, solicits correspondence with autograph collectors. He has an exceptionally fine and large exchange list. Being one of the largest dealers in the country, he has nearly everything in his line. It would be considerably to your advantage to write to him.

We have received so many letters of congratulations and encouragement from collectors that we are reminded of the fact "that there is something to live for after all," in a very pleasing manner. Many are anxious, willing and able to contribute, and to avoid slighting any one we shall probably have to enlarge. This will be done whenever we get enough advertisements to pay us in so doing. If we can get enough to pay expenses we shall be satisfied, and repeat our former assertion that THE AUTOGRAH is not intended or expected to make a fortune for its publisher. We hope all who have anything to sell or who would be benefitted by an advertisement will favor us with one. At the same time that you are helping us you are helping yourself.

Send for our exchange lists, we have an exceptionally fine one.

The autograph fraternity have met with an almost irreparable loss in the death of George Hoyt, of Brooklyn. The young gentleman was an ardent collector, one who collected for the love of collecting, and ever upright and honest in all his dealings.

Some one has been flooding the country with bogus signatures of Henry W. Longfellow, they are a very clever imitation but can be detected in an instant. These are on what purports to be a leaf from some school boy's autograph album with another name on the back. We have heard of twelve or thirteen of these lately and all have "Susan Briggs" on the other side. Look out for them. If this should happen to catch the eye of the perpetrator, we will say that he has committed a penitentiary offense, no more nor less than forgery.

Thanks for "Autograph" received some days ago. I find it a good advertising medium and wish you success. Will recommend it.

R. W. Mercer.

No. 147 Central Ave. Cincinnati, O.

## Exchanges

Notices of exchange inserted free for subscribers, advertisers and contributors. The Publisher reserves the right to reject any he deems objectionable.

Autograph letters and signature also. Foreign coins for the same. Send lists. Geo. F. Heath, Monroe, Mich.

Autographs of Sumner, Hayes, Hancock, Fremont, Butler, Sheridan, Randall, Rive-King, Taylor, Barrett etc., for fine autographs correspondence solicited. Wyman Bros., Perry, Ohio.

Minerals, Indian Relics and curiosities, for Autographs. Edward Bumgardner, Holton, Kas.

Volume VII of Golden Days for best offer of autographs. Wm. Gingles, Box 322, Portland, N. J.

Autographs to exchange. collectors send list of duplicates, especially Presidents, Vice Presidents, cabinets, speakers, etc., J. Neale, 181 West 16th st. New York city

We have received a great many more that will appear next time, omitted for want of space.



## COLLECTOR VS. HUNTER.

The collecting of autographs of famous persons has been classed among modern nuisances, and the collection has had all manner of anathemas poured upon his head.

But is the practice to be entirely condemned? The undeniable fact is apt to be forgotten that had men in different ages not been possessed of the hobby of collecting autographs, our museums would to-day be lacking in many relics of the great ones of the earth which are now preserved within their walls. How often do we find in autograph collections some of the best and brightest thoughts by our favorite authors, thoughts that otherwise might have been lost to the world. Again, the collecting of autographs can be made, if the collector employs discrimination, an intellectual pleasure, and as he adds each treasure to his albums, he can likewise add to his store of knowledge.

A correct and extensive knowledge of contemporary men and events is never superfluous, and this the autograph collector may derive from his hobby if he follows it in an intelligent manner. But like all things it may be overdone, or a collection may be compiled in such a mechanical manner that the collector receives no intellectual benefit from it. Entomology may be robbed of its benefits if the devotee looks more to the quantity than to the quality of the insects that adorn his cabinet. The botanist derives no benefit from his hobby if he culls his flowers merely because of their varied colors or different shapes. Let an autograph collector compile an album at random merely that he may possess the largest number of names in the shortest period of time, and the practice is devoid of practical

good. But the intelligent collector finds in his hobby a fountain of knowledge, the streams of which are always varied. He seeks to secure the most illustrious names in the different callings or professions, and ascertains first the causes that have led to their eminence. By following out this plan he acquires a ready knowledge of the most important figures in literature, art, music, science, and statesmanship, and their deeds and achievements become familiar to him. The collecting of autographs has proven a valuable education to many compilers. To ridicule the intelligent autograph collector is to exhibit an ignorance between the distinction there is between such a person and the autograph hunter.

The peculiar form of the law of preservation carried on by the collector many a biographer has been placed under a deep obligation. It is the autograph hunter who carries the passion to a degree that is abnormal, and robs it of its true value. In his album distinction is confounded with notoriety, and the collection is chiefly valuable for what it does not contain. A single name written on a card, has but little, indeed, if any value; it is the characteristic letter, the terse sentiment, the history of a man or woman couched in an epistolary form, that lends dignity to an autographic collection, and none but the most ill-informed will speak lightly of such a compilation. The intelligent autograph collector makes his possession a further means of education in that it teaches him the best form of epistolary communication. Addressing the most learned men of the day, his application, if he would have it bring forth a satisfactory result, must not be faulty in composition or grammar, until

by practice he becomes master of creditable letter writing. And thus may autograph collecting be employed as a means of education to the compiler, if intelligently followed, while to the world at large it aids in preserving much in the histories of man at once valuable and interesting.—*Brooklyn Magazine.*

*When answering advertisements please mention The Autograph.*

## Autograph Letters

—AND—

## DOCUMENTS CHEAP FOR CASH.

New York Auction Sales of Autographs, Books, Bric-a-brac, Paintings, Relics, Stamps, Coins, etc., etc.

Attended on commission. Catalogues supplied for postage.

Collectors not already possessing a New York correspondent will find it to their advantage to write. Address;

**M. F. SAVAGE,**

275 West 11th Street, New York City, N. Y.  
WANTS—Copper Relics, Revenue, Match and Medicine Stamps, purchase or exchange.

## WILLIAM EVART BENJAMIN, AUTOGRAPHS.

**LARGEST DEALER in this Country**

New Catalogue nearly ready.

Send stamp for it.

744 Broadway, N. Y.

## AUTOGRAPH LETTER GIVEN AWAY!!!!

FOR FIVE ADDRESSES OF AUTOGRAPH  
COLLECTORS.

**E. F. GLADWIN,**

278 DEGRAUW STREET, BROOKLYN, N. Y.



# THE AUTOGRAPH.

Vol. 1.

NEBRASKA CITY, NEB., JUNE, 1887.

No. 3.

## AUTOGRAPH COLLECTING.

Arthur Levy.

The "autograph craze," as it is called, promises fair to become the most popular collection there is. What stamp collecting was ten years ago, autograph collecting is now. A few hints to new collectors would not be out of place, therefore I will give a few from my own experience.

Try to obtain A. L's. S. whenever it is possible as they are much more interesting than common signatures, which do not signify anything, and become almost a loss to you, when you receive a letter. However, signatures of some persons would not be out of place, as autograph letters might not be obtainable. A signature of Andrew Johnson is not to be thrown away as an autograph letter cannot be obtained without spending a large sum of money. However, an autograph letter covering a few pages is in the possession of the Hon. George W. Childs, who has undoubtedly one of the finest collections in America, most of those he has being autograph letters signed.

I would advise collectors never to paste autograph letters in a book. (I know this is done by quite a few,) as they ought to be kept as clean as possible, and loose if possible, as a better specimen may be obtainable at any time, and

then the collector would find himself at a loss, as he could not trade the A. L. S. in his possession except at a reduced value.

I would now give a description, which will occupy as little space as possible, of the library of Geo. W. Childs, and a few autograph letters which are deserving of special attention.

As most know, this gentleman was well acquainted with Charles Dickens, being one of his most intimate friends, and as they corresponded with each other Mr. Childs has very many letters at hand—one is dated and written as follows:

Gade Hill Place

Highamby Rochester, Kent,  
Wednesday, Fourth Nov., '68.

My dear Mr. Childs:

Welcome to England! Dolby will have told you that I am reading again—on a very fatiguing scale—but that after the end of next week, I shall be free for a fortnight, as to country readings. On Monday next I shall be in town, and shall come straight to pay my respects to Mrs. Childs and you. In the meantime will you, if you can, so arrange your engagements as to give me a day or two here in the latter half of this month? My housekeeper-daughter is away hunting in the Hampshire, but my sister-in-law is always in

charge, and my married daughter would be charmed to come from London to receive Mrs. Childs. You cannot be quieter anywhere than here, and you certainly cannot have from any one a heartier welcome than from me.

With kind regard to Mrs. Childs,

believe me,

Faithfully Yours Always,  
CHARLES DICKENS.

Geo. W. Childs, Esq.

Mr. Childs also has the complete Mss. of "Our Mutual Friend" in his possession, besides letters from many American poets, ex-presidents, authors, and statesman, which I will describe in my next.

MONROE, Mich.,

S. H. Calhoun jr.

Dear Sir—Am pleased with your paper and hope it will prosper and grow and prove a vigorous advocate of our delightful "hobby."

With Best Wishes,

GEO. F. HEATH.

DENVER, COL.

S. H. Calhoun, Jr.:

The AUTOGRAPH at hand. A hasty perusal assures me that you have hit the mark and that your little venture will prove a "beacon light" to autograph collectors.

Very truly yours,

O. H. PECK.

P. O. B., 2140.



RICHARD GRANT WHITE.

In strange contrast to the most universal expressions of praise and admiration of the superb acting of the "Queen of Tragedy" Charlotte Cushman, is the following letter in the possession of M. F. Savage, of New York, of Richard Grant White, the celebrated critic and author. While it does not coincide with the views of a great majority of the American people who have seen this wonderful woman perform it illustrates very forcibly one of the leading traits of its author, to-wit: having a mind of his own and able to defend it.

22, WASHINGTON PLACE, }  
23rd of May. }

"Bravo, my dear Stuart, am glad there is some one with the critical faculty and the critical boldness to write such an article as yours on Charlotte Cushman, thanks for sending it to me. The nonsense that has been written about that great, coarse, ugly, mercenary woman is enough to make one sick. She had a certain sort of ability, but I never could away with her. Her Lady Macbeth was an effort to be what she thought Mrs. Siddons was; Merililies was clever in its way but absurdly grotesque, and extravagant, and to me repulsive; in the last act of Henry VIII as she sat in her big chair she looked like an overgrown old Irish washerwoman under the immediate and pressing operation of a strong dose of cathartic medicine. I am heartily with

you from beginning to end.  
Yours Ever Truly,  
R. G. W.

NOTES.

To be observed in exchanging, purchasing, or selling.

Don't pass judgement on the price of an autograph until you have seen it.

Always insist on seeing an autograph other than those of living, and easily accessible, celebrities.

Accompany your request for an autograph to be sent an approval with responsible references.

References should be had before the article desired is sent, unless you are acquainted with your correspondent.

The privilege of returning unsatisfactory specimens should be cheerfully accorded.

HORSE'S LUCK.

"Quite unexpectedly, a very valuable series of letters recently came into the hands of George R. Morse, broker, of Rochester, N. Y. They comprise a great portion of the private and official correspondence of John Page of Virginia, Governor of that State in 1802-1804, at the time he was a member of the Council of Public Safety during the Revolution. Mr. Morse thinks they are a portion of the correspondence he left as materials for the use of a biographer. They comprise a number of letters from Washington, Jefferson, Richard Henry Lee, Francis Lightfoot Lee and other leaders of the Revolution. Many of these

are of absorbing interest, and relate to the internal conduct of the war and the relations and jealousies of those engaged therein. One of the letters of Washington is an official report to the council of battle of Germantown. There are also many letters from Washington's generals. Of Gen. Weedon's letters there are nineteen, nearly all official setting forth the state of the army, movements of the troops and plans of generals, as well as several reports, accompanied by plans of battles. These letters are being carefully looked over with a view to publication, after which they will be carefully catalogued and the majority sold."

Single Autograph letters and Signatures  
From three Collections almost  
Given away.

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E. F. Gladwin 278 DeGrauw-st. Brooklyn N. Y.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

WANTED—Letters or Manuscripts of his or any other Noted People, male or female, also historical curiosities, maps, books, etc. Pay Cash. Write to  
C. F. GUNTHER, 78 Madison-st.  
Chicago, Illinois.

STAMPS! AUTOGRAPHS!

We are selling a large collection of stamps at 25 per cent discount from Durbin's prices.  
AGENTS AND COLLECTORS SEND FOR SHEETS.  
Autograph collectors send for list of Autographs at very low prices.  
BLACKSTONE STAMP CO.,  
BOX 241 WORCESTER, MASS



# THE AUTOGRAPH.

S. H. CALHOUN Jr., EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

Published at Nebraska City, Nebraska, on the first of every month.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:—25 cents per annum in advance.

ADVERTISING RATES: 5 cents per line.

	1mo.	2mo's.	3 mo's
1 inch	.50	.85	\$1.00
2 inches	.85	\$1.25	\$1.50
3 inches	1.00	\$1.50	\$2.00

Special prices for larger space and longer time.

Editorial notices 3 cents per line.

No advertisements inserted less than 25 cents.

Advertisements must be paid for in advance.

The exceeding low price at which they are inserted, make it impossible to keep open accounts.

NO STAMPS taken in payment for advertisements.

Copy must be in by the 25 of the month to insure insertion in the next number.

All are invited to contribute.

Address all communications to

S. H. CALHOUN JR.,  
Nebraska City, Neb.

Entered at Nebraska City post office as second-class matter.

We hope after this issue to be regular and on time. It is not at all likely that the reason of our recent delay will re-occur.

As will be noticed in another column Richard Grant White rarely signed his name in full, it was only to the most formal letters that he signed his name otherwise than R. G. W.

We must give special notice of the Youths Ledger and The Stamp, they are model papers and leaders in their line. This is due from the excellent matter and get up in each, and plainly indicates that their editors are "the right men in the right place."

We cannot too strongly urge collectors of autographs to accompany each specimen with a portrait; the conjunction forms a pleasing combination, and the value of the autograph is enhanced, for its importance is immediately increased.

We have received William Evarts Benjamin's spring catalogue of autographs, and among the many rare and unique specimens he has for sale are the original love letters of John Keats to Fannie Brawne, three in number, displaying the tender sensibility and passionate love of the man and poet without reserve.

Want of space has heretofore excluded notice of our exchanges. In the future we will strive to give them more attention. We have received the following papers: The Curiosity World; Youth Ledger; The Stamp; Collectors Companion; Exchange and Mart; The Philatelic Gazette; Book Buyer; The Collector; Golden Eclipse; Western Philatelist and The Young Investigator.

Wigwag—"That fellow with the long hair? O, he's a poet." Filtrip—"His is a striking figure—undoubtedly a man fired by high ambitions!" Wigwag—"Ah? Well, I live in his neighborhood, and I happen to know that he has also been fired by his landlady!"—*Detroit Free Press*.

Pretty soon the clerk who has to be excused of an afternoon because he is too ill to sit at his desk at work will be found sitting for three hours in the sun on the hard side of an unplanned board seat, shouting like a madman when his favorite ball team is getting whipped.—*Boston Post*.

The late Ben. Perley Poore was one of the most extensive individual autograph collectors in the world. The beauty of his collection was the many rare documents given to him by their author and personal letters written to himself. He never purchased or exchanged an autograph. In his recently issued *Reminiscences* he gives a great many fac simile signatures, adding greatly to the appearance and attraction of the book.

## Exchanges

Notices of exchange inserted free for subscribers, advertisers and contributors. The publisher reserves the right to reject any he deems objectionable.

Autograph letters and signatures, also foreign coins for the same. Send list. Geo. F. Heath, Monroe, Mich.

Autographs of Sumner, Hayes, Holmes, Fremont, Butler, Sheridan, Randall, Rivington, Taylor, Barrett, etc., for fine autographs. Correspondence solicited. Wyman Bros., Perry, Ohio.

Autographs for the same. Send list. S. H. Calhoun Jr., Nebraska City, Neb.

Minerals, Indian Relics and curiosities for autographs. Edward Bumgardner, Holton, Kas.

Volume VII of *Golden Days* for best offer of autographs. Win. Gingen, Box 332 Bordentown N. J.

Autographs to exchange, collectors send list of duplicates, especially presidents, vice presidents, cabinet speakers, etc. J. Neatie, 191 West 10th st. New York City.

(We have received a great many more that will appear next time, omitted for want of space.)

## AUTOGRAPHS!

Bought, Sold, and Exchanged. Send for lists.

S. H. CALHOUN JR.,  
Nebraska City, Nebraska.



**IMPORTANT.**

Mr. Lyon G. Tyler, son of Ex-President John Tyler, has commenced a sketch of his father's administration. He desires any one who has in their possession letters having any thing to do with, or bearing on the subject of, President Tyler, his administration, or the annexation of Texas, to copy them for him. If of any use to him their owners will be given due credit in the book.

This is a good and cheap way of getting a national and permanent advertisement.

Help him if you can by sending copies of anything on the subject you have or can find. Remember that while you are helping Mr. Tyler you are helping yourself. Send copy to this paper.

Part second of Chas. W. Fredrickson's great collection of autographs was recently sold at auction by Messrs. Bangs & Company, 744 Broadway, New York. Some of the finest specimens went for a mere song. The essays of Benjamin Wilson on electricity with Benedict Arnold's signature on the title page, was sold for \$5.50. Thos. Randolph's poems with an autograph of Chas Cotton brought \$6.00; An A. L. S. of Ada Byron was bought for \$1.63; Wm. E. Gladstone, A. N. S. \$5.25; An A. N. S. of Thomas Hood, author of "the song of the shirt" sold for \$6.00; the great poet Fitz-Greene Halleck, A. N. S. brought only \$1.00; Dr. Sam'l. Johnson's last letter to his mother, dated Jan.

20. 1859, brought out a spirited contest and was finally knocked down for \$60.00; an A. L. S. of Chas. Lamb brought \$18.00, while the M. S. S. of "memories of Charles Lamb" by B. W. Proctor with an A. L. S. of Lamb inserted, which cost Mr. Fredrickson \$100.00, brought only \$17.00; \$5.50 was received for eight lines signed by Paganini, the great violinist; An autograph letter of Robert Southey went for \$3.75, and a page of Sir Walter Scott's manuscript brought but \$1.75; the original manuscript of Lawrence Sterne's, "The Fragment" was sold for \$16.00; Tallevrand, the great French poet, A. L. S. \$3.25; a six-page autograph letter signed, of the Duke of Wellington was bought for \$5.50; Wadsworth, A. L. S. \$6.50; Wm. Wilberforce, A. L. S. \$2.25; An autograph letter written in the third person and not signed, of Martha Washington was sold for \$55.00.

Two newsboys stood in front of a show-window looking at Sarah Bernhardt's autograph.

"Yer don't s'pose dat's writen', dos yer, Snipsy?" said one in a confidential tone to the other.

"Well, ther first thing looks like er s, and th' first of t'other like er b. I b'lieve 'tis writen', but darned if I can read 'er."

They looked at it again in silence.

"Betcher I know what 'tis," said one of them after a minute, and he brought his fist

down on his knee. "Doncher know? Well, see ther bottom says Boyd's opera house. Dats ther writen' of dis yere big French actress what's cumin', I'll betcher. She's French, an' her writin' 's French, too, er else we could read it."

"Yes sir, yer right," said the other. "'S French writen', but yu know what it looks like? It looks jes like two streaks er blue chain lightning."

William Evart Benjamin,

## AUTOGRAPHS!

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## AUTOGRAPH : LETTERS

—:AND:—

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Attended on commission. Catalogues supplied for Postage.

Collectors not already possessing a New York Correspondent will find it their advantage to write.

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**M. F. SAVAGE.**

275 West 11th-st., New York City, N. Y.  
WANTS—Copper Relics, Revenue, Match and Medicine Stamps, purchase or exchange.

Please Mention this Paper when answering Advertisements.

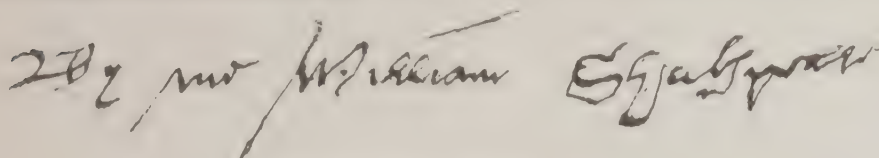


# THE AUTOGRAPH.

VOL. I.

NEBRASKA CITY, NEB., JULY - AUGUST, 1887.

NO. 4.



(Signature to the Will in the British Museum.)

## THE GUNTHER FOLIO AND AUTOGRAPH.

By E. P. VINING.

175 Dearborn Street, Chicago, December 6th, 1886.

At the request of the Shakespeare Society of New York, I some time ago endeavored to investigate the early history of the copy of the second folio edition of Shakespeare's works (1632) now owned by you, which copy has an inscription upon one of the fly-leaves, signed 'John Ward' and pasted to which leaf there is a strip of paper bearing the name 'William Shakespeare.

It seems to me proper that the results of such investigation should be communicated to you, and I, therefore, take this method of doing so.

Attached to the book is a letter dated 'Bath, Feb. 16, 1839,' signed 'Charles Godwin' and addressed to 'Dr. Charles Severn,' in which the writer refers to 'the autographs of Ward and Shakespeare, and, mentioning a volume which was sent with the letter, says: 'You will perhaps be of opinion that the volume once belonged to the John Ward whose books and records you have.'

In 1839 there was published in London a book entitled *The Diary of Rev. John Ward, A.M., Vicar of Stratford-upon-Avon—extending from 1648 to 1679—arranged by Charles Severn, M.D.*

On page 33 of this work occurs the following passage: 'In a copy of the folio edition of his (Shakespeare's) works, formerly in the possession of the Rev. J. Ward, "W. Shakspeare" is written on a slip pasted in, probably a genuine autograph obtained by Mr. Ward.' It, therefore, appeared that, if the letter addressed to 'Dr. Charles Severn,'

the fact of my seeing so much of his correspondence with your firm, spreading over years, will entitle me to be an authority.

Inquiries made in Bath, through the kindness of Mr. Alfred Allen, editor of *The Journal of Microscopy and Natural Science*, also developed the facts that Mr. Charles Godwin had been a bookseller in Milsom street, Bath, and a man of literary repute; that on retiring from business, he went to Barnstaple, a small seaport town in Devonshire, and afterwards came to live in Norfolk Crescent, Bath, and that his son was still the Librarian of the Marquis of Bute.

The evidence, therefore, seems to be conclusive that the letter attached to your book was written by a reputable and well known bookseller to Dr. Severn, and that the book accompanying it was the one referred to by the latter in his edition of the *Rev. John Ward's Diary*.

(to be continued.)

## A GREAT COLLECTION.

I saw the other day one of the largest and most valuable collections of autographs owned in the country. It is in the possession of George R. Morse, of this city. Enclosed within the covers of a half dozen large volumes, the great and good of earth are represented by specimens of their handwriting in the form of letters, documents, curious wills, proclamations, commissions, etc., etc., to the number of over 1700. Mr. Morse began his collection about ten years ago and he is enthusiastic in his pursuit. His most valuable series is one containing the autographs of presidents and signers of the declaration of independence. Of the list of fifty-six signers, he has the sign manual of thirty-two. His collection of presidential autographs is complete and embraces valuable

He has been dead many years. Our old ledgers show him to have been a highly respectable bookseller at Bath, who bought largely from us, and for whom we acted as agent. After ten years we destroy old orders, but if you like to send us a tracing of the letter, we will put it before a gentleman who was well acquainted with Mr. Godwin's handwriting, and who describes it as a neat, small hand, generally written with a thick pen. Mr. Godwin's son became Librarian to the Marquis of Bute, and he may possibly hold that position now.

A photograph of Mr. Godwin's letter was then sent to Messrs. Hamilton, Adams & Co., who forwarded it to Mr. John Stark of 12 Busby Place, Camden Road, N. W., London, who returned it with the following comment:—

In returning you the 'photo,' I've no hesitation whatever in recognizing the handwriting to be that of the late Charles Godwin of Bath, and



specimens, especially those from Washington and Jefferson. He has recently issued a list of duplicates in his collection which has been mailed to other collectors, and a copy of which is in my possession. It embraces among other curiosities a bank check in the autograph of George Washington, interesting documents bearing signatures of distinguished statesmen of the period of Queen Anne, a queer document of the French revolution signed by Guillotin, and, perhaps, as rare as any, a letter written in 1630 by Lady Mary Herbert, so celebrated by Ben Johnson in the well known lines:

"Underneath this marble hearse  
Lies the subject of all verse,  
Sidney's Sister, Pembroke's Mother," etc.

The letter is very legible and well preserved, and related to a loan of \$973, "To my loving friend and kinsman, Mr. Thomas Stanley and his." Mr. Morse's object in issuing the catalogue is to effect exchanges with other collectors. — *Rochester Post*.

#### HORACE GREELEY'S HARD HAND.

Horace Greeley wrote a hard hand, but we fear the *Camden Post* draws it pretty strong in telling the following story: "Mr. Greeley used to write a miserable scrawl. One day he sent the following to the Iowa Press Association: 'I have waited till longer waiting would seem discourteous, and now decide that I cannot attend your press meeting next June, as I would do. I find so many cares and duties pressing on me that, with the weight of years, I feel obliged to decline any invitation that takes me over a days journey from my home.' Out of this the recipients, in consultation assembled, made: 'I have wondered all along whether any squirt had denied the scandal about the president meeting Joe in the woods on Saturday. I have hominy, carrots and R. R. ties more than I could move with eight steer. Ifeels are blighted dig them early. Any insinuation that brick ovens are dangerous to hams gives me the horrors.'

**Them's Our Sentiments Tew.**

We wish our correspondents

would remember that we are neither a Frenchman, Dutchman or a Spaniard, and write their letters in United States. We can wade through poor writing and not grumble, but a letter in French, German or Spanish makes us tired — unless there is money in it. — *Curiosity World*.

#### Burial Places of the Presidents.

The burial places of the presidents are widely scattered. Washington lies at Mt. Vernon: the two Adams' are buried under the old church at Quincy, Mass; Jefferson rests at Monticello; Madison's grave is at Montpelier, not far from Monticello; Monroe's remains lie in the Richmond cemetery; Jackson's grave is in front of his old residence, "The Hermitage;" Van Buren was buried at Kinderhook; Harrison at North Bend, near Cincinnati; Polk at Nashville; Taylor's remains are near Louisville; Fillmore lies in Forrest Lawn cemetery, Buffalo; Pierce was buried in Concord and Buchanan at Lancaster; Lincoln's grave is near Springfield, Johnson's at Greenville, Garfield's at Cleveland, Grant's at Riverside and Arthur's at Albany.

Mrs. Margaret Deland, the Boston poetess, is always accompanied on her walks by a fierce but muzzled mastiff.

Mrs. James Meilson, a sister of the late Horace Greeley, is very low with pneumonia at New Brunswick, N. J. She is 79 years old.

The Trustees of the Ohio State University have made a proposition to Ex-President Hayes to take the presidency of the university, and a strong effort is being made to get him to accept.

"Pinafore" in a ship 138 feet long and thirty-five wide, in real waters is to be the next enterprise at Madison Square Garden, New York.

It is said that John Wannamaker, of Philadelphia, proprietor of the largest Dry-Goods store in the World, carries a life insurance of \$650,000.

## FOR SALE

Documents signed by Buchanan, Jackson, Johnson, Madison, Monroe and Tyler.

### OLD LETTERS & DOCUMENTS.

Gen. Wm. Allen, Doc., 1791;  
Maj. Jos. Anderson, Doc.;  
Gen. John Armstrong, Doc., 1768;  
Maj. J. A. Ashby, fine letter, 1837.  
Caleb Atwater, 1840;  
Richard Bache, Doc. 1790;  
Jno. M. Berrien, L. S. '45;  
Geo. M. Bibb, letter '44;  
Col. Clement Biddle, Doc., 1796;  
Richard Biddle, A. L. S.;  
Gen. David Blacksheare, A. L. S.  
Gen. Jas. Bloomfield, A. L. S. 1812;  
Elias Boudinot, Doc., 1769;  
Gen. Geo. N. Biggs, A. L. S. 1842;  
Jabez Bowen, Doc., 1793;  
Gov. Robert Bowie, Doc., 1812;  
Gov. Thos. Carlin, Doc., 1839;  
Sen. Chas. H. Carroll, A. L. S. 1838;  
Gen. Lewis Cass, A. L. S. and Doc.;  
J. Carter, 1827;  
Com. Isaac Chauncy, L S '38;  
Samuel Chase, Doc, 1760;  
Com. Samuel Chew, Doc, 1795;  
Gen. Jno. Clarke, A L S '14  
H. Clay, A L S  
Gen. John Clifford, fine Doc;  
DeWitt Clinton, fine A L S;  
Gen. Jas. Clinton, Doc, 1779;  
Col. Wm. Cocke, A L S 1817;  
Lewis Conditt, A L S '27;  
Judge Wm. Cooper, Doc, 1729  
Gov. G. W. Crawford, A L S '62  
Maj. J Crawford, L S 1818  
Rev. N. M. Crawford, A L S 1839  
Wm. H. Crawford Doc and A L S  
J. J. Crittendon, A L S '61  
B. W. Crownshield, A L S '16  
Emerson, Holmes, Longfellow, Anna Cora Ritchie, Reade, Spurgeon, A. Bartholdi, Boissy de Argelas, Duke of Kent, Lafayette, St. Clair and 1000 others. Address

### R. W. MERCER,

147 CENTRAL AVE., CINCINNATI, OHIO.

Dealer in Indian Relics, Mineral Fossils, Shells, Old Arms, etc. etc.

## AUTOGRAPHS

Jno. A. Logan	Grover Cleveland
Wm. C. Whitney	Mrs. Grover Cleveland
Com. Queen	John Sherman
L. Q. C. Lamar	Sam'l J. Randall
Wm. F. Vilas	John G. Carlisle
Wm. C. Endicott	Geo. F. Edmunds
Chief Justice Waite	Mrs. J. A. Garfield
Jas. G. Blaine	Geo. M. Robeson
Jeff. Davis	Jno. C. Fremont
Thos. A. Hendricks	Edwin Booth
Minnie Maddern	Annie Pixley
Maggie Mitchell	Rhea

Lawrence Barrett.

Also a number of Generals, Congressmen, etc.  
The lot for \$4.00 Cash.

**S. H. CALHOUN, JR.**

NEBRASKA CITY, NEB.



# THE AUTOGRAPH.

S. H. Calhoun, Jr., Editor and Publisher.

Published at Nebraska City, Nebraska, on the first of every month.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:—25 cents per annum, in advance.

ADVERTISING RATES:—5 cents per line.

	1 mo.	2 mo's.	3 mo's.
1 inch,	.50	.85	\$1.00
2 inches,	.85	\$1.25	\$1.50
3 inches,	\$1.00	\$1.50	\$2.00

Special prices for larger space and longer time.

Editorial notices 3 cents per line.

No advertisements inserted for less than 25 cents.

Advertisements must be paid for in advance.

The exceedingly low price at which they are inserted, makes it impossible to keep open accounts.

No stamps taken in payment for advertisements.

Copy must be in by the 23 of the month to insure insertion in the next number.

All are invited to contribute.

Address all communications to

S. H. CALHOUN, JR.,

NEBRASKA CITY, NEB.

Entered at Nebraska City post office as second class mail matter.

## EDITORIALS.

—Our thanks are due Messrs. Burns & Son, 744 Broadway, New York, for the *American Antiquarian*, a chief feature of which is the autograph department.

—We are informed that a new autograph paper is soon to be started by W. E. Benjamin.

—Don't you think you will get your money's worth by subscribing for THE AUTOGRAPH?

—THE AUTOGRAPH one year and the privilege of the Exchange Column for only 25 cents.

—Emery Storrs' elegant collection of outographs is being sold singly by his son. He recently sold an autograph letter signed by Napoleon Bonaparte, written when first consul, for \$15.

—The stamp papers seem very much worried about the suspension of the *American Philatelist*, the official organ of the A. P. A., and devote most of their time and space to denouncing papers who thought it consistent to take up with the opposite side of the question. Better not bring too much personal matter into your papers.

—Those autograph collectors who desire to dispose of their collections for cash should write to us.

—The *Collectors' Companion* has changed its name to *Collectors' Aid*.

—Howard K. Sanderson has finished his series of articles in the *Curiosity World* on the Signers. It was an elegant effort and speaks well for its youthful author's thorough cognizance with the subject.

—Exchanges! Will you oblige us by sending two copies of your papers?

—Our space, like a merchant's goods, is our stock in trade, and those who use it must pay our price. We are not running a cheap John affair, neither are we publishing this paper for fun. We aim to give value received and intend to have pay for what we do or "we ain't 'gwine to do it."

—Original articles are solicited. There are many who are silent simply because they imagine they can't write well enough. Now your composition is of secondary matter, what we want is the material and we will see that it is presented in a readable form. *Make the effort.*

The following complimentary(?) notice appeared in the Palmyra (Neb.) *Item*.

"No. 3 of the Autograph, published by S. H. Calhoun, Jr., at Nebraska City, Neb., a brochure devoted to the pestiferous autograph-mania. We cannot but surmise that it pays to publish the thing else the young gentleman would certainly keep clear of it; but while we knew the world abounded with fools, we are emphatically unprepared to believe that there are enough idiots among the fools to support such a venture."

Such expressions would be excused from a ten year old child but from a man "old enough to know better" they can hardly be excused. It shows a narrowness of mind not capable of looking on both sides of a question, and a pitiable ignorance of the difference between an intelligent collector and autograph hunter. In other words this fossilized specimen of humanity, in his patent sheet calls our advertisers and subscribers fools, not capable of knowing their own business. An insult, we cannot

in behalf of our patrons, be slow to resent. We hope our antiquated friend will learn from this to "look before he leaps."

## EXCHANGE COLUMN.

Notices of exchange inserted free for subscribers, advertisers and contributors. The publisher reserves the right to reject any he deems objectionable.

A foot power scroll saw for best offer. S. H. Calhoun, Jr., Nebraska City, Neb.

Autograph letters, of theatrical interest, at fair prices purchased by J. H. Brown, Box 142, Malden, Mass. Please send lists.

Send your lists of autographs for exchange to C. A. Bulkley, Granville, Washington Co., New York.

There are 1000 convicts in Sing Sing Prison, and it takes twenty-one barrels of flour to make bread for them every day.

The Russian Government has placed an immense order for rifles with a firm in Connecticut

A 100-acre silk farm has been started in Maryland. Each colonist will pay \$250 to learn the business.

There are 25,000 workmen engaged in the rubber industry in America. The new syndicate of importers and manufacturers represent a capital of \$35,000,000. The annual product is estimated at \$100,000,000.

The Union Bridge Company of Buffalo, N. Y., has started to make iron for the \$3,000,000 bridge across the Ohio at Cairo.

Manufacturers of velvets and plushes are crowding their mills as fast as possible to meet the heavy demands.

Owing to the failure of the crops a famine prevails in Asia Minor, and 100,000 people are in danger of starvation.

Donations for the sufferers by the theater fire in Paris have reached over \$300,000.

Governor Torres, of Sonora, Mexico, offers \$100 each for the heads of Apaches.



## PERSONAL GOSSIP.

Queen Victoria recently declined to shake hands with Joseph Chamberlain.

The Prince of Wales is said to have "dropped" a comfortable fortune on the result of the last derby race.

The Grand Duke Nicholas, heir to the Russian imperial throne, who last week attained his nineteenth year, possesses a tenor voice of remarkable tone and compass.

Dora Wheeler, who has painted the portraits of most of the literary men and women of to-day, painted Mark Twain's not long ago, and said of him that she had never had among all her literary sitters one more thoughtful, learned and scholarly. "He would pass like a flash from the maddest and most irreverent wag-gery to a grave discussion of obstruse thought." It must have been in one of the former "flashes" that the humorist declared Browning to be his favorite poet.

Miss Mary Harden, of Georgia, whom John Howard Payne loved more than half a century ago, died at Athens, Ga., last week. The original manuscript of "Home, Sweet Home," it is said, was buried in the grave with her.

It has been definitely decided that Mr. Laurier, Member for Quebec, will be the new leader of the Liberal Party in Canada.

Zola is still much abused, but his income is 300,000 francs a year.

Mrs. Grant has so far received \$394,459 as profits on the sale of "Grant's Memoirs."

General Boulanger is described by a recent interviewer as "a short man, rather stoutly built, with brown hair, brown beard, rather a red face; above all things quiet-looking almost to commonplaceness." He wore the ordinary French civilian's dress of black frock-coat and trousers, with only the single red spot in his button hole.

Lieutenant Flipper, the colored graduate of West point, who was dismissed from the service for malfeas-

ance in office, is in the syndicate which has discovered the old gold and silver mines in Mexico, and the probabilities are that before long he will be the richest negro on the continent.

Joaquin Miller tells a pretty story about "Mrs. Bonanza" Mackay and a poor California girl who went to Paris to study art. The girl was dying and had no money to get home, when Mrs. Mackay called on her, bought all her poor little work for \$100, and made the check \$1000.

## A WORD TO ADVERTISERS.

All dealers and collectors will quickly recognize the fact that this is a chance for them to advertise quickly to a class of collectors seldom reached by an amateur paper. Our circulation is large and to *bona fide* autograph collectors. Collectors whose custom is worth something. Our rates our low, only 50 cents an inch, each insertion. Give us a trial advertisement. We will send marked copies to every collector you desire us to. Try one, one month, you will never regret it, and it will help us wonderfully.

## A NEW FAD FOR COLLECTORS.

A new fad for collectors has been discovered, namely, engraved plates. It is not enough to collect etchings and engravings, but these enthusiasts want the steel and copper plates that they were printed from. Is there a stray hobby for any one left to ride? This is an age of collections, and what "rafts" of matter pass through the auction rooms into the parlors and libraries and cabinets of our wealthy citizens! Pictures, prints, first editions, coins, clocks, watches, bric-a-brac, minerals, curios, autographs, photographs, gems, postage stamps, walking sticks, umbrellas(!), gloves, swords, firearms, carvings, play bills, book plates, buttons and business cards. The man who made a collection of cigar stumps is already noted beyond his deserts. The piquancy of this metal plate collecting doubtless consists in the difficulty of securing examples of value, for those made by painter etchers are commonly defaced or destroyed after a limited number of impressions have been taken, and it is a matter of principle with the etcher that no impression shall be struck after the lines begin to show signs of weakening under the strain of the press.

Ruskin's eccentricities, according to a recent letter from London, have culminated in unmistakable insanity. Recently he kindled his fire with a valuable book from his library.

Fanny Davenport has left the stage to write a book.

Sarah Bernhardt says Americans are art critics by nature rather than by nurture.

Please Mention this Paper when answering Advertisements.

## AUTOGRAPHS

Bought, Sold, and Exchanged. Send for lists.

S. H. CALHOUN Jr.

NEBRASKA CITY, NEB.

Single Autograph Letters and Signatures,

FROM THREE COLLECTIONS,

**ALMOST GIVEN AWAY.**

**SELLING OUT DIRT CHEAP!**

E. F. GLADWIN, 278 Degrow Street, Brooklyn, N. Y.

## ABRAHAM LINCOLN!

WANTED—Letters, or Manuscripts of his or other noted People, male or female, also historical curiosities, maps, books, etc. Pay cash. Write to

C. F. GUNTHER, 78 Madison Street,

Chicago, Illinois.

## Autograph Letters and Documents,

**CHEAP FOR CASH.**

New York Auction Sale of Autographs, Books, Bric-a-Brac, Relics, Paintings, Stamps, Coins etc., etc.

Attended on commission. Catalogues supplied for postage.

Collectors not already possessing a New York correspondent will find it to their advantage to write. Address

**M. F. SAVAGE,**

275 W. 11th Street, New York City, New York.

WANTS—Copper Relics, Revenue, Match and Medicine Stamps, purchase or exchange.

## Stamps, Autographs.

We are selling a large collection of stamps at 75 per cent discount from Durbin's prices.

**AGENTS AND COLLECTORS SEND FOR SHEETS.**

Autograph collectors send for list of Autographs at very low prices.

BLACKSTONE STAMP CO.,  
BOX 241, WORCESTER, MASS.

Printed by Kellogg Bros., Davenport, Iowa  
Send for free estimates.]



# THE AUTOGRAPH.

VOL. 1,—

NEBRASKA CITY, NEBRASKA, NOVEMBER, 1887.

| NO. 5.

## The Gunther Folio and Autograph.

(Continued.)

It now seemed desirable to learn, if possible, whether Dr. Severn was correct in his supposition that the attestation in the volume signed 'Jno. Ward,' was in the handwriting of the Vicar of Stratford-upon-Avon of that name.

By the courtesy of Mr. Richard Savage, Librarian of Shakespear's Birth-place at Stratford-upon-Avon we were furnished with a careful tracing of a specimen of the Vicars handwriting, including his signature. This demonstrated the fact that the memorandum in your book was not in his handwriting.

My attention was, however, called to the fact that in the year 1748 the Stratford bust of Shakespeare was carefully repaired, and the original coloring as far as possible preserved or restored, at the expense of Mr. John Ward, the grandfather of Mrs. Siddons. His theatrical company performed *Othello* at the Old Town Hall, Stratford, in September, 1746, and the proceeds of the entertainment he gave for the above object

It seemed not impossible that he might have been the John Ward who once owned your book. Upon application to Mr. J. O. Halliwell-Phillips, it appeared that in his matchless collection he had the original correspondence between this Mr. John Ward and the authorities of Stratford-upon-Avon as to the entertainment above mentioned. He sent him a photograph of the memorandum contained in

your book, and he sent us a tracing of some of the writing of this John Ward, the eighteenth-century actor, and not only Mr. Halliwell-Phillips but all who have seen and compared the two specimens are unanimous in the conclusion that the handwriting is unquestionably the same. It certainly cannot be reasonably imagined that a copy of the second folio was "cooked" to correspond with the one described by Dr. Severn in his preface, for fraudulent purposes. For, even if a motive could have existed anywhere for such a proceeding, the fact that Dr. Severn himself was deceived by imagining the signature of John Ward, the actor, to be that of John Ward, the vicar, would instantly have exposed the fraud.

Your book contains a number of annotations signed 'C. L.' in some cases, and with the name 'Charles Lomax,' in full, in others. One of these is dated 1781, showing that the book was at that time in his possession.

Through the son of the late Mr. Charles Godwin, we learned that, although he was but nine years of age at the date of his father's letter, 1839, he remembered having heard the book frequently mentioned, and at that time it belonged to the Rev. Iltid Thomas of 5 Camden Place, Bath, and that Mr. Thomas and Mr. Godwin made many inquiries as to the autograph pasted in the book; and that it was finally sent to London and sold for a small sum of money.

It was found that the Rev. Iltid Thomas left several children,

among them a son named *Charles Lomax Thomas*, who was a clergyman, who held a living at or near near Bradford in Yorkshire, and who died there some years ago.

Another son was found who stated that 'Charles Lomax' was the name of his maternal grandfather. It would, therefore, appear that the book was in the possession of a member of the family in 1781, and was still in the possession of the family in 1839, and that the possessors then knew nothing as to how the slip bearing the name of 'William Shakspeare' became pasted in the book.

These facts would seem to remove all possibility that the signature can have been one of the Ireland forgeries, as it does not seem probable that such a book would pass from Mrs. Thomas' family to Mr. Ireland's possession and then back again to the family formerly owning it, while there was no recollection of such a fact by any of the members of the family and when the fact if it had occurred at all, must have occurred but a few years before. Moreover, the signature has none of the peculiarities of the Ireland forgeries, and I believe that few would think of classing it with them.

[To be continued.]

## Twelve Remarkable Men.

The polls have just been closed on an election in England, held to establish the identity of the twelve living men entitled to rank as the most remarkable of the age, and it



affords us pleasure to be the first American journal to announce that President Grover Cleveland has been elected by a majority of 4000 over Robert Browning, and by handsome majorities over other distinguished competitors, as will appear in the official returns further along. The election was held under the auspices of *Cassell's Saturday Review*, and at the hour of closing the polls it appeared to be a neck-and-neck race between our democratic favorite and H. R. H. the Prince of Wales. The count showed Albert Edward beaten by 299 votes, President Cleveland receiving 5230 to his 4981. Sir Edward Millais, the painter, was further behind, with 4,885; Gounod, the composer, with 4,680; Parnell 4,512, the Czar of Russia, 4,152; Sir Arthur Pinafore Sullivan, 3,912; Pope Leo XIII., 3,744; the Marquis of Hartington, 3,522; Sir Frederick Leighton, 3,551; Jules Grevy, president of France, 3,133; Sir Frederik Roberts commande of the army of India, 3,072; Cardinal Manning, 2,821; Earl Dufferin, 2,629; Professor John Tyndall, 5,592; Cardinal Newton, 2,437; Baron Rothschilds, 2,256; Dean Farrar, 1,704; Archbishop Benson, 1,670; and Robert Browning, 1,560. There are hundreds of others who were beaten in the contest against Jeffersonian simplicity; but as they all less popular than the poet Browning, we will class their vote as "scattering."

It is gratifying that Europe has been able to discover so quickly that President Cleveland is more remarkable than this long list of popes, potentates, princes, lords, spiritual or temporal, statesman, scientists, artists, poets, generals, musicians, and bankers; but our triumph is not wholly unalloyed, for there is also a list containing the

names of those who have been elected more remarkable men than Cleveland. We extract it from *Independence Belge*, and conceal it as much as possible by leaving it in the original.

M. Gladstone, 32 54s. voix;  
Le prince de Bismark, 32 245;  
Lord Tennyson, le poete, 23.064;  
M. F. de Lesseps, 19.776;  
Le general Wolseley, 17.632;  
Le marquis de Salisbury, 17.592;  
Le compt de Molteke, 13.96s;  
W. John Bright, 13.740;  
Lord Randolph Churchill, 13.337;  
M John Ruskin Pectheticien, 12.389;  
M. Henry Irving, Pacteur, 10.560;  
H. M. Stanley, 10.141;  
M. Pasteur,, 10.116;  
M. Huxley, le phiosophe, 9,108;  
Le rev. Spureon, le predicator anglais, 8' 232;  
L'emperor d' Allemange, 7,300;  
M Edison, 6,646;  
Le rev. H Ward Beecher, predicateur Americain, frere de Mrs. Beecher Stowe, 5,295.—St. Louis Republican.

### Abraham Lincoln.

WANTED- Letters or Manuscripts of his or any other noted people, male or female: also historical curiosities, maps, books, etc. Pay cash. Address C. F. Gunther, 78 Madison St. Chicago, Ill.

### Stamps! Autographs!

We are selling a large collection of stamps at 25 per cent discount from Durbin's prices.  
AGENTS AND COLLECTORS SEND FOR SHEETS  
Autograph collectors send for list of Autographs at very low prices.

### Blackstone Stamp Co.,

BOX 241.

WORCESTER, MASS

Fine two and three page letters of JAS. K. POLK for \$4.00

ALSO A. L. S. OF A JACKSON AND F. GRUNDY,  
Collection of 1000 varieties of Rare Foreign and U. S. Stamps in Scotts latest full morocco album only \$4.00  
C. H. McHENRY. 210 S. SPRUCE ST  
NASHVILLE, TENN  
Refereuces- Publisher of this paper.  
C. F. Gunther, Chicago, Ill.

## CALHOUNS

SECOND GREAT MONTHLY BARGAIN IN

## Autographs

M. B. Bates	R. B. Hayes
S. M. Cullom	Wade Hampton
M. R. Waite	J. G. Carlisle
Jefferson Davis	J. T. Trowbridge
Jubal A. Early	Jos. E. Johnston
G. T. Beauregard	Phil. Sheridan
W. T. Sherman	Jno. G. Whittier
James Parton	W. S. Hancock
"Josh Billings"	Paul Haynes
Jas. B. Eads	C. A. Arthur
John A. Logan	G. B. McClellan
U. S. GRANT	Benj. Butler

Varinna Davis	John Sherman
R. Conkling	S. P. Jones
R. G. Ingersoll	Cyrus W. Fields
J. S. Blackburn	Charles A. Dana
G. Cleveland	Stanley Mathews
Jas. G. Blaine	W. E. Chandler
Hy. Watterson	George Cable
O. W. Holmes	"Mark Twain"
Augusta Evans	F. T. Frelinghuysen

The entire lot for \$5.00 Cash  
(U. S. Grant's alone is worth \$1.00)

James K. Polk	A. L. S.	\$4.00
Felix Grundy	"	\$2.00
Oliver W. Holmes	"	\$1.50

(The three for \$6.50)

It is a well known fact that Jas. K. Polk is rare in any form, his signatures bringing from \$1.00 to \$1.50 and autograph letters selling at about \$6.00. These autographs are warranted genuine and are a decided

## BARGAIN

CHEAPER THAN THE CHEAPEST  
The two lots for the pitiable sum of  
**\$11.00**

No other dealer in America  
can sell them as cheap.  
S. H. CALHOUN JR.

NEBRASKA CITY

NEB.



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NEBRASKA CITY, NEBRASKA.

Entered at Nebraska City postoffice as second class mail matter.

## NEW YORK AGENT.

Mr. Arthur Levy, 913 Pleasant Avenue, New York City, is authorized to receive subscriptions and advertisements for THE AUTOGRAPH.

We are almost ashamed to place this number before the people on account of the protracted delay.

But contrary to the opinion of a few we have not gone 'up the flue' but on deck again, and this time to stay. But an explanation is due our readers for the non appearance of the AUTOGRAPH during August, and September, and when it is given we are sure the blame will not be put on us as a few are want to do, but placed where it belongs. In July we decided to change printers and sent the paper to Davenport, Iowa, to be printed by Kellogg Bro's of that place, and from the appearance of the July—August numbers we were led to believe that the change was for the better. On August 26th copy was sent for September number. Kellogg promising to have the paper delivered by Sept. 5th, Sept. 5th

came and went and no paper, after repeatedly writing, and telegraphing we brought forth on the 8th of October a postal card informing us that the paper was up, and would be printed and sent the following Monday; like Sep. 5th the following Monday came and went and no paper, we then informed the Hon. (?) Kellogg's that if paper was not sent by the 13th it would not be accepted. They requested the 15th, to deliver them, and request was granted, but this date also came and went, and no paper.

Then we asked them to return copy; we suppose about the 5th of November, a postal will come informing us that copy will be returned on the 15th; we can then look for it about Xmas, when it comes (if it does come) we will reissue that paper, as there is a short reference to a few gentlemen of Denver, whom we were fortunate enough to meet, this summer, that we would like to publish. The gentlemen in question, are the members of the Denver Stamp Collectors League, and five of them interested in papers. The Messrs. Feldwich, and Osgood of the *Stamp*, and Messrs. Carstarphen & Babb of the *Collectors Review*. Bright and courteous the impression produced on their visitor was, we can assure them, of the most complimentary character. But a word more about Kellogg, we will have nothing more to do with them, and hope that others will profit by our experience, and give them a wide berth; There word is not to be relied on, and a man whose word is not good, is one that should not be trusted. We are informed that one of these Kellogg's was a candidate for president of the W. A. P. A. If elected we will bet a handful of tacks against a shirt button that he didn't keep his election promises.

We wonder if he was elected on his word. Let us again say to those who have business with them bind them to a written contract with a penalty or you will be loser by the transaction.

Gallipolis, Ohio.

S. H. CALHOUN, JR.

Dear Sir:—I am delighted with your paper. It is just what the fraternity needs.

Yours Truly,

G. A. ROEDDEL.

Don't you think you will get your money's worth by subscribing to the AUTOGRAPH.

The Lorraine Library Co., 41 W. 31st Street, New York, sends to any address a free catalogue of Autographs, Portraits, and Books, which are sold cheaper than the cheapest.

## Exchange Column.

Notices of exchange inserted free for subscribers, advertisers and contributors. The publisher reserves the right to reject any he deems objectionable.

An amateur printing press with 3 fonts of type; Foot power scroll saw; magic lantern with 75 views. All or each for best offer. Also want lists of autographs for ex.

A! Allen. 31 East 127th. Street, New York, N. Y.

Autographs exchanged, send lists to O. H. Peck, Box 2140, Denver Col.

Revenue stamps for exchange. C. G. Woodworth Box 3003, Denver Colorado.

Autographs for exchange. Geo. B. Patrick, Lock Box 244, Minneapolis Minn

A long list of autographs of Presidents, Governors, and prominent persons. correspondence solicited. C. A. Bulkley, Granville, N. Y.



## Autograph Collecting.

BY ARTHUR LEVY.

The writer has given special attention to the autographs of poets and authors; and has been very successful in obtaining some rare specimens. The A. L. S. were not restricted to any certain class of the aforesaid, and all different nations are represented. As Chas. Dickens was the last one spoken of, we will begin with him. He is represented by an A. N. S., and an envelope, addressed to James T. Fields, who was one of Mr. Dickens' publishers. It is written on a dark blue envelope, with his monogram. The note is written on dark blue paper and is neatly written in dark blue ink (this seems to show that dark blue was the favorite color of that great author). It is relating to the publication of his books in America, and is addressed to Geo. W. Childs, Esq., of Philadelphia. By the way, Mr. Childs has the original manuscript of *Our Mutual Friend*, which he has had bound in two large quarto volumes. This is the only complete manuscript of Dicken's novels outside of the one possessed by the South Kensington Museum. The manuscript is dated "Thursday, Fourth January, 1866."

Another rare A. L. S. in the possession of the writer is one of Edgar A. Poe, which he obtained from a dealer in Autographs at a great cost, and which he has just sold for three times the original amount.

This writer was undoubtedly, and is to-day one of the rarest to obtain a good specimen of, and a letter often brings as high as twenty-five dollars. A. L. S. of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow of a few pages can be obtained for from five to eight dollars, as they are not very rare. Signatures can

be obtained from any sensible dealer or collector for 75 cents.

During the time I have been a collector, I have had quite a little to do with collectors who demanded \$2 for a signature of Grant, \$1.50 for a signature of Bayard Taylor, etc. etc., and I have always put away their letters, regretting that such men ever collected. This—the collecting of autographs is quite prominent with the young ladies, for I know of quite a few who have as good if not better collections than I have.

Prominent men must be bothered very much by collectors, and, yet they usually answer requests for their autographs, still there are a few who have taken oath—excuse the remark—never to answer a request. Prominent among these are Messrs. Geo. Parsons Lathrop, J. Hawthorn, and Edwin Booth.

Perhaps they besire to see their autographs sold for high amounts, some day, and wish to make them as rare as possible, but this is not the case, as a signature of the two former ones can be obtained at no price, while that of Booth can be obtained for fifty cents.

A writer in a late publication speaking of the eminent tragedian, Edwin Booth, says: "Those who know him well are aware that he has great tenderness of heart and abundant playfulness of humor; that his mind is one of extraordinary liveliness; that he sympathizes keenly and cordially with others; yet that the whole man seems saturated with sadness, isolated from companionship, lonely and alone.

It is temperament, combined with a sombre and melancholy aspect of countenance, that has helped to make him so admirable in the character of Hamlet. The many sorrowful experiences of his youth deepened the gloom of his inherited temperament.

## For Sale.

*Documents signed by Buchanan, Jackson, Johnson, Madison, Monroe and Tyler.*

### OLD LETTERS AND DOCUMENTS

Gen. Wm. Allen, Doc., 1791; Maj. Jos. Anders, Doc., Gen. John Armstrong, Doc., 1764; Maj. J. A. Ashby, fine letter, 1837; Caleb Atwater, 1840; Richard Bache, Doc., 1790; Jno. M. Berrien, L. S. 1845; Geo. Bibb, letter '44; Clement Biddle, Doc., 1795; A. L. S. of Richard Biddle; Gen. David Blacksheare, A. L. S. Gen. Jas. Bloomfield, A. L. S. 1812; Elias Bou-dinot, Doc., 1769. Gen. Geo. N. Biggs, A. L. S. 1842; Jabez Bowen, Doc., 1793; Gov. Robert Bowie, Doc., 1812; Gov. Thos. Carlin, Doc., 1839; Sen. Chas. Carroll, A. L. S. 1839; Gen. Lewis Cass, A. L. S. and Doc.; J. Carter 1827; Com. Isaac Chauncey, L. S. '37; Samuel Chase, Doc, 1760; Sam'l. Chew, Doc. 1795; Gen. John Clarke, A. L. S. '14, H. Clay A. L. S., Gen. Jodn Clifford, Doc., Dewitt Clinton, fine A. L. S., Jas. Clinton, Doc. 1779, Wm. Cocke, A. L. S., Lewis Condit, A. L. S. '27, Judge Wm. Cooper, Doc., G. W. Crawford, A. L. S., Wm. H. Crawford, Doc. and A. L. S., J. J. Crittendon, A. L. S., '61. B. W. Crowninshield, A. L. S. '16., Emerson, Holmes, Longfellow, Anna Ritchie, Reade, Spurgeon, Bartholdi, Boissy de Angelas, Duke of Kent, Lafayette, St. Clair, and 1000 others. Address,

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